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(54) **Distance measuring device and laser beam projector therefor**

(57) A laser beam projector has a laser light source that outputs a laser beam, a light projecting mirror for reflecting the laser beam outputted from the laser light source, a mirror driving device for oscillating the light projecting mirror so as to scan a specified area with the laser beam and piezoelectric elements attached to a back surface of the light projecting mirror. As a voltage is applied to the piezoelectric elements, the curvature of the reflecting surface of the light projecting mirror can be changed and the visibility angle of the light beam projector can be varied. A distance measuring device is formed with such a laser beam projector together with a laser beam receiver for receiving reflected waves of the laser beam from an object and a control unit for measuring the distance to the object based on the difference between the time of projecting the laser beam and the time of receiving the reflected waves by the laser beam receiver as well as the direction of the object from the direction of the projected laser beam.

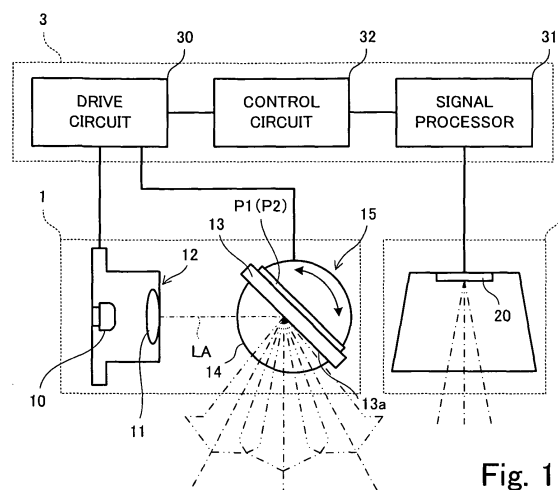


Fig. 1



EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 07 00 1179

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Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (IPC)
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			G01S G11B G02B
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search Munich		Date of completion of the search 7 July 2009	Examiner Shaa'an, Mohamed
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document			

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**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
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This annex lists the patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned European search report.
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